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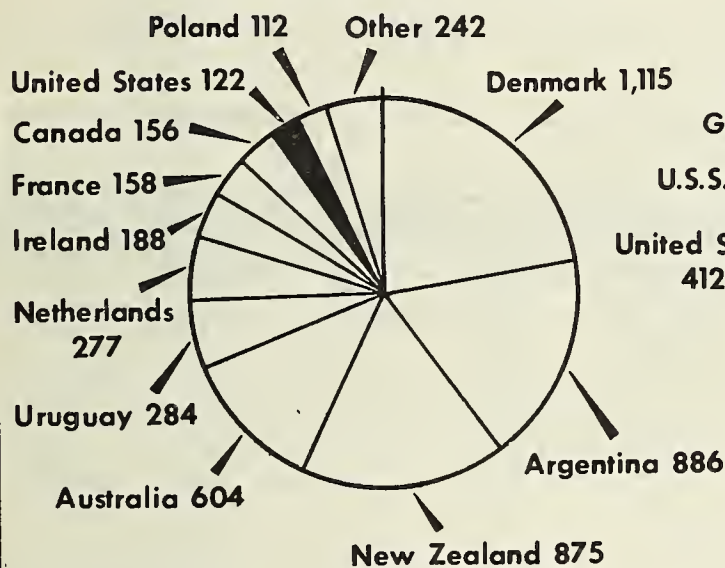
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INTERNATIONAL MEAT TRADE 1954

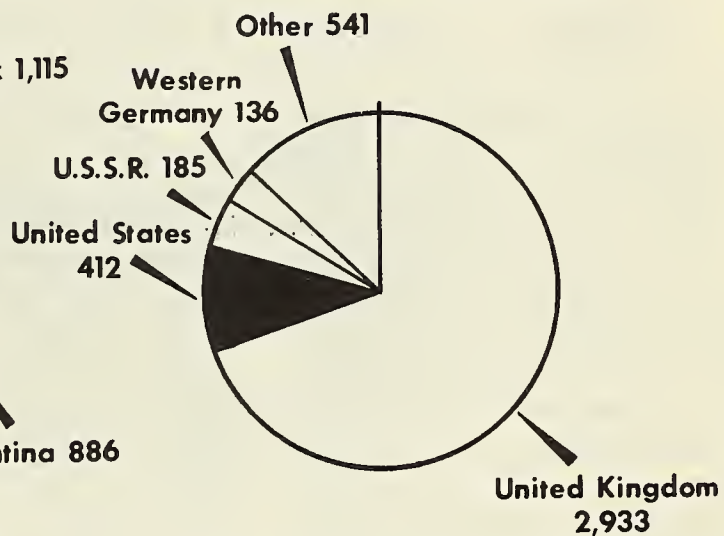
WORLD TRADE IN MEAT, 1954*

Exporting Countries



TOTAL 5,019 MIL. LB.

Importing Countries



TOTAL 4,207 MIL. LB.

* INCLUDES BEEF AND VEAL, PORK, MUTTON AND LAMB, GOAT
AND HORSEMEAT ON A CARCASS WEIGHT BASIS

U. S. D. A.

FAS-NEG. 620

A sharp increase in the quantity of meat moving from exporting countries was the dominant feature of the international trade in meat in 1954. Over 5 billion pounds of meat (carcass weight basis) were exported from the 44 countries for which detailed estimates have been prepared by the Foreign Agricultural Service, compared with 4.6 billion in 1953 and 4.1 billion in 1952. Average exports from these countries in 1946-50 were 4.5 billion pounds.

During 1954 the largest exporting countries in order of size were Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand, Australia, Uruguay, the Netherlands, Ireland, France, Canada, the United States and Poland. About 70 per-cent of the exports originated in Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia.

The high level of exports from the important surplus producing countries indicates the increased competition that United States producers face from foreign sources and the difficulty of expanding export markets for meat.

As usual, the United Kingdom imported the largest quantity of meat in 1954. Imports of 2.9 billion pounds accounted for almost 70 per-cent of the total imports of the 44 countries under review. The United States was the second largest importer obtaining 412 million pounds from foreign sources. The U.S.S.R. was third with recorded imports of 185 million pounds from the free world. The next largest importers were West Germany, France, Sweden, Belgium and Italy followed by a number of importers of smaller size.

Meat 1/ : International Trade, Averages 1946-50, Annual 1952-53

Country or Area	Average									
	1946-50		1952		1953 2/		1954 2/			
	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:	Exports:	Imports:
	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.	Mil.lbs.
N.America - Total:	843	260	370	587	301	510	322	472		
United States	409	219	149	502	149	439	122	412		
Other	434	41	221	85	152	71	200	60		
Europe - Total	575	3,907	1,457	2,870	1,802	3,611	2,020	3,466		
United Kingdom	2	3,033	11	2,411	10	3,158	15	2,933		
Other	573	874	1,446	459	1,792	453	2,005	533		
U. S. S. R.	3/	67	3/	13	3/	46	3/	185		
Philippine Rep.	—	17	—	9	—	14	—	18		
South America	1,733	40	841	55	929	44	1,181	53		
Africa	56	23	47	26	33	23	17	13		
Oceania	1,273	—	1,387	—	1,556	—	1,479	—		
World Total 4/	4,480	4,314	4,102	3,560	4,621	4,248	5,019	4,207		

1/ All meats converted to a carcass weight equivalent includes beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, goat and horse meat; excludes live animals, edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Not available. 4/ Imports do not balance with exports as trade statistics of some countries, especially small importing countries, do not show separately meat import figures. Also in postwar years some countries have not published trade statistics.

Imports by the United Kingdom dropped off somewhat from a year earlier. Imports during 1954 totaled 2.9 million pounds compared with 3.2 in 1953 and 3.0 billion the average for 1946-50. Bacon is the largest pork item imported by the United Kingdom and Denmark is the largest supplier. Poland and the Netherlands were the other principal suppliers. Bacon in British parlance is the dressed hog side which is cured and smoked. In contrast, only the belly portion is cured as bacon in the United States. Only a small amount of canned hams were imported. During 1954 Australia was the United Kingdom's largest supplier of beef and Argentina ranked second. New Zealand, Ireland, the Netherlands and Uruguay were suppliers of intermediate size. Smaller amounts were obtained from Poland, Denmark, Brazil and a number of other countries. New Zealand was by far the largest supplier of mutton and lamb. Australia and Argentina were smaller suppliers.

The British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has agreements for the purchase of bacon from Denmark and the Netherlands which terminate September 29, 1956; from Poland, terminating December 31, 1955; and with the Republic of Ireland, which runs until April 30, 1956. The contract with Ireland includes some pork as well as bacon.

During the first 5 months of 1955 imports of meat by the United Kingdom totaled 10 percent more than a year earlier.

United States imports of meat declined slightly during 1954 with larger imports of pork not quite offsetting reduced imports of beef. The largest part of the beef imported was canned, mostly canned corned beef from Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. Imports of pork continued at record high levels during 1954. The imports were principally fresh and frozen pork from Canada and canned hams from the Netherlands, Denmark, Poland, Canada and West Germany. No canned corned beef is produced in the United States in consumer-size cans. Domestic processors get more for beef suitable for such processing if sold as bulk or loose corned beef or if it is sold in any form other than canned. Production of canned hams has been rising steadily in the United States in recent years.

Beef exports from the United States last year were below 1953, largely because of smaller exports to Greece and Western Germany, which had been financed under United States government aid programs. The smaller pork exports during 1954 largely resulted from smaller shipments of fat back to the Netherlands and Western Germany. Restrictions on imports of the United States pork products because of the presence of the Vesicular Exanthema in the United States are sharply restricting exports.

MEAT 1/ INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AVERAGES 1934-38 and 1946-50, ANNUAL 1952-1954

Continent and Country	Averages						1952		1953 2/		1954 2/	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
NORTH AMERICA												
Canada 2/4/	193,436	24,568	370,750	16,425	102,660	41,940			108,715	35,160	156,275	36,470
Honduras	-	115	520	165	600	5/			365	5/	5/	5/
Mexico	23	1,130	56,710	840	115,800	1,190			40,010	1,255	44,805	1,485
United States 3/	116,600	262,000	409,300	218,600	148,950	501,517			149,316	438,849	121,564	412,056
Cuba	82	7,302	10	23,795	5/	41,880			5/	34,640	5/	21,930
Dominican Republic	-	410	5,785	530	2,270	5/			2,995	5/	5/	5/
Total North America	310,100	295,500	843,100	260,300	370,300	586,500			301,400	509,900	322,600	471,900
EUROPE												
Austria	760	13,097	755	37,175	1,000	3,290			3,485	4,240	8,225	6,440
Belgium	8,955	54,500	25,250	190,260	32,380	44,935			58,155	65,575	54,065	54,435
Denmark 3/7/	573,200	900	355,530	690	720,620	25			1,009,545	1,331	1,115,200	2,125
Finland	6,435	1,257	2,835	5,470	-	neg.			-	neg.	-	5/
France	4,698	51,958	42,700	111,945	61,940	70,770			65,030	46,325	158,285	74,510
Germany, Western 8/	4,148	156,081	1,385	141,600	28,675	100,040			40,160	162,015	15,180	136,155
Greece	-	2,689	-	32,105	-	4,625			-	10,455	-	8,130
Iceland	6,248	8	1,245	10	437	5/			11	5/	5/	5/
Ireland	70,881	40	53,320	-	168,800	-			176,940	-	187,940	-
Italy	11,597	73,542	7,260	55,865	7,680	94,680			9,090	68,980	1,085	52,895
Netherlands	85,571	21,974	29,335	59,370	282,685	20,425			246,170	37,440	277,300	39,445
Norway	2,244	4,378	500	5,870	1,235	290			8,165	3,370	7,110	4,815
Portugal	936	525	1,565	7,715	3,735	2,780			7,165	895	6,640	180
Spain 2/	2,666	4,733	230	25,695	1,095	47,080			5/	5/	-	-
Sweden 3/	31,097	14,914	505	30,110	1,340	6,220			20,190	35,120	13,865	68,070
Switzerland	1,350	8,515	1,200	26,520	645	19,700			1,340	10,285	310	14,565
United Kingdom 10/	28,008	3,455,910	2,025	3,033,475	11,140	2,410,740			10,125	3,157,625	15,485	2,932,975
Yugoslavia	18,901	-	7,500	1,200	8,990	-			5,095	-	46,950	-
Total Europe	1,000,900	3,870,300	574,700	3,906,900	1,456,600	2,869,800			1,802,000	3,610,700	2,020,000	3,465,500
Western Europe	857,700	3,865,000	533,100	3,765,100	1,332,400	2,810,600			1,660,700	3,603,700	1,907,600	3,394,700
Eastern Europe 11/12/	143,244	5,337	41,600	141,800	124,200	39,200			141,300	7,000	112,400	70,800
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 12/	8,295	6,213	5/	67,100	5/	12,600			-	46,300	-	185,200

ASIA											
Rep. of the Philippines	-	12,330	-	16,665	-	8,955	-	13,915	-	15/	18,435
Total Asia	-	12,330	-	16,700	-	9,000	-	13,900	-	-	18,400
SOUTH AMERICA											
Argentina	1,460,045	-	1,308,900	-	646,000	-	678,000	-	886,000	-	-
Brazil	213,538	2,563	134,735	15/	13,000	20,390	11,750	7,680	495	-	14,520
Chile	20,977	70	12,440	5/	1,290	320	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/
Paraguay	16,483	-	40,600	5/	5,300	5/	2,645	5/	10,045	5/	5/
Peru	20	875	-	20,455	5/	22,540	5/	24,700	5/	27,690	-
Uruguay	323,623	44	235,830	-	175,975	-	236,470	-	284,200	-	-
Venezuela	450	3,500	90	17,685	5/	11,920	5/	11,615	5/	10,840	-
Total South America	2,035,100	7,100	1,732,600	40,400	841,600	55,200	928,900	44,000	1,180,700	53,000	-
AFRICA											
Madagascar	30,410	434	35,375	75	16,880	5/	14,910	5/	5/	5/	-
Northern Rhodesia	-	-	-	-	-	3,490	-	5,490	-	5/	-
Southern Rhodesia	18,601	186	11,180	1,150	11,655	1,455	11,171	1,300	5/	5/	-
Union of South Africa	13,542	19,643	9,400	21,880	18,650	21,540	6,320	16,775	17,130	12,720	-
Total Africa	62,600	20,300	56,000	23,100	47,200	26,500	32,400	23,600	17,100	12,800	-
OCEANIA											
Australia	495,742	7	491,315	-	510,190	-	696,170	-	603,810	-	-
New Zealand	594,138	-	782,190	-	876,460	-	859,935	-	874,980	-	-
Total Oceania	1,089,900	-	1,273,500	-	1,386,600	-	1,556,100	-	1,478,800	-	-
TOTAL WORLD	4,506,900	4,211,700	4,480,300	4,339,300	4,102,300	3,559,600	4,620,800	4,248,400	5,019,200	4,206,800	-

1/ All meats converted to a carcass weight equivalent - includes beef and veal, pork, mutton and lamb, goat and horse meat; excludes live animals, edible offal, lard, rabbit and poultry meat. 2/ Preliminary 3/ Averages for years 1935-39 for prewar. 4/ Includes Newfoundland, beginning April 1, 1949. 5/ Not available 6/ Partially estimated 7/ Includes carcass meat equivalent of live cattle exports. 8/ Western Germany, beginning October 1, 1949. 9/ Averages for years 1931-35 for prewar. 10/ Includes edible offal. 11/ Includes Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland and Rumania. 12/ Present territory for postwar years. 13/ Estimated - based on imports into receiving countries reporting imports by origin. 14/ Estimated - based on exports from supplying countries reporting exports by destination. 15/ January - September data.

Compiled from official sources, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other United States representatives abroad. Data for countries have changed boundaries relate to present territory. Totals include estimates for countries for which statistics are unavailable. Foreign Agricultural Service, July 1955.

Although official trade data for the U.S.S.R. are not available, that country imported at least 185 million pounds of meat from non-Communist areas during 1954 as indicated from the export statistics of other countries. The U.S.S.R. made extensive purchases of meat in Denmark, Argentina, Uruguay, New Zealand and Australia and smaller purchases in Canada and a few other countries. Imports by the U.S.S.R. were very small in 1952 but rose sharply in 1953 and 1954.

Germany's imports during 1954 were significantly smaller than a year earlier but her exports were also down from 1953. Net imports in the two years were about equal. France's exports reached very high levels as the government subsidized exports as a price support measure. Sweden's imports rose significantly and exports dropped off. The meat trade of Belgium consisted of fairly large exports and fairly large imports so that the two almost balanced. In the previous two years Belgium's exports had been in excess of its imports. It is estimated that local production supplied 97 percent of Belgium's beef requirements in 1954 but 3 percent of the pork produced was exported. Italy's imports in 1954 were moderately smaller than a year earlier and exports were reduced to an unusually low level.

Exports from Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand and Uruguay during 1954 were greater than a year earlier but exports from Australia were down moderately from 1953. Exports from Ireland rose to high levels reflecting the increased demand for meat in the United Kingdom. Although data for Eastern Europe are not shown separately on the table, exports from Poland declined from 139 million pounds in 1953 to 112 million during 1954. The United Kingdom took most of the exportable surplus and this was mostly bacon, but some beef and other pork products were received. Exports from Poland to the United States were chiefly canned hams and shoulders. Exports from Canada continued to rise. Exports during 1954 of 156 million pounds were nearly 45 percent greater than in 1953.

(A summary of this information was published in the August 8, 1955 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets.)